

THIS REPORT CONTAINS ASSESSMENTS OF COMMODITY AND TRADE ISSUES MADE BY USDA STAFF AND NOT NECESSARILY STATEMENTS OF OFFICIAL U.S. GOVERNMENT POLICY

Voluntary _ Public

Date: 1/30/2012

GAIN Report Number: IN2012

India

Post: New Delhi

India confirms new Highly Pathogenic Avian Influenza Strain

Report Categories:

Poultry and Products
Pest/Disease Occurrences

Approved By:

Allan Mustard

Prepared By:

Ritambhara Singh

Report Highlights:

On January 27, 2012, India's National Institute of Virology confirmed the strains of Highly Pathogenic Avian Influenza (HPAI) from outbreaks occurring in December 2011 and January 2012 to the Office of Agricultural Affairs in New Delhi. A new HPAI strain belonging to the 2.3.2.1 clade was identified in wild birds. There is no evidence that the new HPAI strain is responsible for outbreaks in commercial poultry.

General Information:

On January 27, 2012, India's National Institute of Virology confirmed the strains of highly pathogenic avian influenza (HPAI) from outbreaks occurring in December 2011 and January 2012 to the Office of Agricultural Affairs in New Delhi. India has notified three HPAI outbreaks to the OIE in 2012, and had also identified HPAI in wild birds in December 2011. Each of these outbreaks occurred in India's northeast. The National Institute of Virology stated that a new strain of HPAI, belonging to the 2.3.2.1 clade, was identified in a wild bird finding in Jharkhand state. The three OIE-reported HPAI cases, which were found in Odisha and Meghalaya states, all belonged to previously identified strains of the 2.2 clade. As of January 27, 2012, there is no evidence that the new HPAI strain is responsible for outbreaks in commercial poultry.